STATINTL

H. R. 14414

Purpose: This bill would amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 490) as amended in 1972 by P.L. 92-313 by repealing the authority of the Administrator of General Services to charge occupants of GSA-controlled buildings for the use and maintenance of those buildings.

Comment:

This bill would delete sections of the 1972 amendments which have proved quite troublesome for the Agency. These sections forced agencies, including CIA, to budget for maintenance and operation of existing space as they were to be charged commercial rates for their occupancy and maintenance by GSA. The Agency has attempted to exclude the Headquarters

STATINTL Complex and [   ] from the purview of the Act, but we have so far not been able to obtain GSA approval. Appeals to OMB, the Comptroller General, and our oversight committees are contemplated.

The potential impact of P.L. 92-313 if it is held applicable to the Agency's government-owned properties was prepared by the Office of Logistics, and is in our file on H.R. 14414. Briefly, the major impact STATINTL would be as follows:

1. The Headquarters Building and [   ] might be construed to fall within the provisions of the parent 1949 Act.

2. Approval of new construction, alterations or major projects would be subject to approval by GSA. If the cost of a project was $500,000 or greater, the project would require a prospectus and approval by the Public Works Committee. This would be a major dilution of the authority of the Armed Services Committees.

3. In future years, if P.L. 92-313 costs are an integral part of the Agency budget, any OMB across-the-board percentage cuts would necessitate extra cuts in operations in order to meet GSA's billings.

Agency position:

H. R. 14414 would eliminate potential Agency problems in budgeting and Congressional supervision, and should have the support of the Agency. AEC and NIH are also unhappy with P.L. 92-313 and will no doubt support repeal of the offensive sections.

OGC Has Reviewed